Development of Vadinar Port

1940. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Kandla Port Trust (KPT) has given an advertisement inviting global expression of interest for development of port facilities at Vadinar;

(b) if so, whether it is not contrary to the understanding arrived at between the Union Government and the State Government of Gujarat to develop Vadinar Port in joint venture;

(c) whether the State Government has also separately requested the Union Government to develop Vadinar Port in joint venture; and

(d) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of Gujarat requested the Union Government to develop Vadinar Port as joint venture. However, it has been decided that the development of Vadinar will be taken up by the Kandla Port Trust.

Development of ports

1941. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat had submitted proposals to the Central Government regarding developing Hagdalla, Navlakhi, Porbandar, Veraval and Bedi Ports to facilitate coastal shipping in 2005 and 2006;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Central Government so far on the proposals;

(c) whether the Central Government awarded consultancy work to Tata Consultancy Services to identify suitable location for coastal cargo, who submitted their report as back as 2003; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such a delay in according the approval on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (d) According to the Indian Ports Act, 1908, responsibility for development of non-major ports vests with respective State Government. However, one non-major port from each Maritime State, including Magdalla in Gujarat, was identified for development for promoting coastal shipping under the National Maritime Development Programme. Tata Consultancy Services also submitted a report in December, 2003, on the development of coastal shipping and non-major ports. With a view to develop coastal shipping the following two schemes had been proposed in the working group report on Eleventh Five Year Plan document of Ministry of Shipping:—